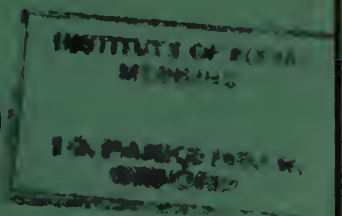


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ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

*Medical Officer of Health*

AND THE

*Sanitary Inspector*

FOR THE

YEAR 1951



HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT,  
1-5 ST. BRYCEDALE ROAD,  
KIRKCALDY.

*July, 1952.*

*To the* PROVOST, MAGISTRATES AND TOWN COUNCILLORS  
OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the Burgh for the year 1951 in terms of D.H.S. Circular No. 128/1951.

In view of the meticulous consideration which was given by the Council to the Foreword of the previous year's Report it has not been deemed necessary to enlarge again on general health trends or on the factors involved. Indeed, the Council has shown its appreciation of the problem in the generous way in which it has endorsed all practical suggestions as to its solution. This Report, therefore, consists mainly of statistics.

I am grateful to the Council for its support and I would also like to thank the staffs of the Health and other Corporation departments for their assistance during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES R. W. HAY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

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## STAFF

School Medical Services Child Welfare	James A. Petrie, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Dental Officer	Miss Rachel I. Mears, L.D.S.
Superintendent of Nurses	Miss Rachel M. Thomson
Health Visitors	Mrs. Irene Bannerman ( <i>nee</i> Redpath) Miss Margaret Cairns Miss Rachel C. Cullen Miss Charlesina Donaldson Miss Christian Haig Miss Helen C. Keegans Mrs. Margaret Kirk ( <i>nee</i> McLean) Miss Janet McLuckie Miss Elizabeth McPherson Miss Isabella Mitchell Miss Bessie Scott Miss Mary N. Tweedie
District Nursing Sisters	Mrs. Alice Campbell (Temp.) Mrs. Anne W. Campbell Miss J. Leitch Mrs. M. MacIntyre Mrs. M. Swanston (Part-time) Mrs. M. Welsh Mrs. M. Wylie
Enrolled Assistant Nurses	Miss Bessie Berry Mrs. M. Smith
Municipal Midwives	Miss M. Brown Miss G. D. Bell
District Nurse Midwife	Miss M. Livingstone
Part-time Midwives	Mrs. Marion Tennant Mrs. Alice Weepers
" Authorised " and Assistant Welfare Officers	William Eadie Robert T. Cuthbert
Welfare Officer (Abden Home)	David Needham
Medical Officer (Abden Home)	Dr. George F. Cables
Consultant Oculist	C. R. D. Leeds, M.D., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E., D.O.M.S.
Chief Sanitary Inspector (and Inspector of Cleansing)	John Page, M.R.San.I., A.M.Inst.P.C.
Depute Sanitary Inspector	Forbes B. Moodie
Assistant Sanitary Inspectors	David K. Comrie Robert Easson Joseph Oates
Assistant Cleansing Inspector	Angus C. Brown

# CLINICS

Tuberculosis and V.D. Dispensary	Dunnikier Road
Child Welfare ; Ante-natal ; Dental ; School and Minor Ailments ; Eye ; Ultra Violet Ray, etc. ....	Loughborough Road
Child Welfare ; School and Minor Ailments ; Dental ; Ear, Nose and Throat ; Immunisation, etc. ....	Glebe Park
Child Welfare        .... ..	Alison Street
Child Welfare        .... ..	Smeaton

## VITAL STATISTICS

## VITAL STATISTICS

TABLE I

Population, estimated to middle of 1951	49,230
Births, corrected	923
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	18.7
Illegitimate birth-rate per 100 live births	2.9
Marriages	474
Marriage rate	9.6
Deaths, corrected	645
Death-rate per 1,000 population	13.1
Infant deaths	33
Infantile Mortality rate	36
Still-births	22
Still-birth rate per 1,000 live births	23
Maternal deaths	—
Maternal death-rate	—
All Tuberculosis death-rate	0.35
Pulmonary Tuberculosis death-rate	0.35
Principal epidemic diseases death-rate	0.20
Area of Burgh	4,890
Census of occupied houses	14,454
Rateable value of Burgh	£401,903



TABLE II

	Civil	Rate per 1,000 of Estimated population
Births		
Legitimate	896	18.2
Illegitimate	27	2.9*
Marriages .....	474	9.6
Deaths		
Infantile mortality rate (under 1 yr)	33	36‡
Neo-natal death rate (0—4 weeks)	23	25
(4—52 weeks)	10	11
Stillbirths .....	22	23‡
Maternal Deaths ..	—	—

\* Per 100 Live Births

‡ Per 1,000 Total Births (including Stillbirths)

‡ Per 1,000 Live Births

TABLE III  
Infant Mortality Statistics

	Number of Deaths	Death-rate
Under 1 week .....	18 (8m. 10f.)	19.5
1 to 2 weeks .....	1 (— 1f.)	1.2
2 to 3 weeks .....	2 (2m. —)	2.2
3 to 4 weeks .....	2 (2m. —)	2.2
4 weeks to 3 months ..	— (—)	—
3 to 6 months .....	8 (5m. 3f.)	8.7
6 to 9 months .....	2 (1m. 1f.)	2.2
9 to 12 months .....	— (—)	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33 (18m. 15f.)</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>CERTIFIED CAUSE OF DEATH</b>		
Prematurity and Debility .....	13	14.0
Marasmus .....	2	2.2
Pneumonia .....	4	4.4
Gastro Enteritis .....	3	3.3
Spina Bifida .....	1	1.1
Cerebral Haemorrhage .....	2	2.2
Asphyxia .....	3	3.3
Meningitis .....	1	1.1
Hydrocephalus .....	1	1.1
*Other Causes .....	3	3.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>36.0</b>

\*Other Causes include Erythroblastosis Foetalis (1)

Hydro Foetalis (1)

Trachea Bronchitis (1)

**TABLE IV**  
**Causes of Death**

	Male	Female	Total
Arteriosclerotic and Degenerative Heart Disease	85	101	186
Appendicitis	3	1	4
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	1
Anaemia	—	3	3
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	2	3
Birth Injuries	2	5	7
Bronchitis	13	11	24
Causes, ill-defined and unknown	3	1	4
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	8	6	14
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	3	2	5
Diabetes Mellitus	1	5	6
Diarrhoea	4	1	5
Diseases of Skin and Organs of Movement	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	5	—	5
Hypertension with Heart Disease	6	3	9
Hypertension without Heart Disease	4	4	8
Influenza	2	6	8
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	2	3
Malignant Neoplasms	54	58	112
Measles	—	1	1
Meningitis, Disease of Spinal Cord	2	—	2
Nephritis, Acute or Chronic	4	4	8
Other Circulatory Diseases	4	3	7
Other Digestive Diseases	—	2	2
Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	2	1	3
Other Diseases of Heart	6	7	13
Other Diseases of Liver	—	2	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System	5	6	11
Other Diseases Peculiar to Early Infancy	7	5	12
Other General Diseases	1	8	9
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	2	2
Other Violence	12	9	21
Pneumonia	8	6	14
Rheumatic Fever	1	—	1
Road Transport Accidents	1	—	1
Senility	4	11	15
Suicide	2	1	3
Syphilis	—	2	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	11	6	17
Ulcers of Stomach and Duodenum	4	1	5
Vascular Lesions affecting Central Nervous System	33	51	84
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>645</b>

The age group distribution of deaths is as under :

Under 4 wks.		4 wks. to 1 yr.	1 -	5 -	15 -	25 -	35 -	45 -	55 -	65 -	75 -	85 -
M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
12 11	6 4	7 1	3 -	6 5	4 7	13 9	31 33	49 47	80 95	79 98		

The greatest cause of death is the cardio-vascular degenerations of old age, but next in importance are cancer and vascular lesions affecting central nervous system.

## NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1947

### A. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS.

#### 1. Care of Mothers and Young Children (Section 22).

A very large proportion of the total mothers with young children attend at the clinics, as will be seen from the table of attendances:

##### (a) ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS\* (whether provided at Child Welfare Centres or at other premises).

	<i>Ante-natal</i>	<i>Post-natal</i>
(i) Number of clinics at end of year provided by local health authority	1	1
(ii) Number of clinics at end of year provided by voluntary bodies	—	—
(iii) Total number of women who attended at the clinics during the year	947	136

##### (b) CHILD WELFARE CLINICS\*

(i) Number of clinics at end of year provided by local health authority	4
(ii) Number of clinics at end of year provided by voluntary bodies	—
(iii) Total number of children under 5 years of age who <i>first</i> attended at the clinics during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were :	
(a) under 1 year of age	542
(b) over 1 year of age	81
(iv) Total number of attendances during the year made at the clinics by children who, at the end of the year were :	
(a) under 1 year of age	5,284
(b) over 1 year of age	1,736

\*Clinics means clinic premises.

The conditions requiring attention were :

	<i>Mothers</i>	<i>Infants</i>	<i>Toddlers</i>
Anaemia	16	1	4
Teeth	2	39	6
Eyes	2	24	6
Ear, Nose and Throat	4	19	14
Other Ailments	22	58	21
Orthopaedic	—	1	16
Chest	1	41	8
Digestive Disorders	1	67	5

	<i>Mothers</i>	<i>Infants</i>	<i>Toddlers</i>
Skin Conditions	9	58	10
Nutrition	—	21	4
Hernia	—	41	4
Phimosis	—	29	1
Debility	—	3	1
Infectious Diseases	—	1	2
Number of attendances for U.V.R. treatment			746
(Adults, 11 ; Children, 50).			

(c) DENTAL CARE FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS,  
PRE-SCHOOL AND SCHOOL CHILDREN

Miss Mears, Dental Officer, reports : " Two clinics are in operation ; one open for forenoon sessions, the other for afternoon sessions.

" Routine dental inspection is made at Nursery and Day schools of all children up to 15 years of age. It is taking about two years to complete the examination of all pupils attending schools within the Burgh.

" One session weekly is devoted to the treatment of pre-school and adult cases.

" Owing to staff shortage there is no routine dental examination of ante-natal cases on their attendance at ante-natal clinics. The cases examined and offered treatment are those who complain of dental pain or acute gingivitis and are referred to the Dental Officer by the Obstetrician.

" When a general anaesthetic is required for an ante-natal case, arrangements are made for the patient to attend the local Maternity Hospital where the services of an anaesthetist can be obtained."

	<i>Expectant Mothers</i>	<i>Nursing Mothers</i>	<i>Pre-school Children</i>
(i) Number inspected by Dental Officer	22	2	93
(ii) Number found to require treatment	22	2	93
(iii) Number accepting treatment	15	—	93
(iv) Number actually treated by Dental Officer	13	—	93

## 2. Midwifery (Section 23)

With the very adequate hospital facilities in the area for midwifery, and the general policy of offering every encouragement to mothers to have their babies in hospital, there has been a reduction in the number of domiciliary confinements. These are carried out mainly by the whole-time municipal midwives acting in conjunction with the general practitioners. A number of cases is also allocated to private practising midwives. One of the latter was reported to the Central Midwives Board for a contravention of the Rules in the beginning of the year when the charge was found proven and the midwife admonished. Towards the end of the year the Town Council decided on policy not to allocate any further cases to private practising

midwives after May, 1952.

All the municipal midwives are trained in the use of, and employ, gas-air analgesia, the demand for which is variable.

In continuance of former practice the Burgh domiciliary midwives instruct pupil midwives from Forth Park Maternity Hospital in respect of their Part II. training.

(a)	Total number of births (including still-births) occurring in the area during the year—that is, before correction for mother's residence	1,459
(b)	Number of births in (a) classified to show type of case and whether doctor present at confinement :	
(i)	Cases dealt with under Section 23(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947 :	
(a)	doctor engaged and present at confinement	66
(b)	doctor engaged but not present at confinement	202
(c)	midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	1
(ii)	Other domiciliary cases :	
(a)	doctor engaged	7
(b)	midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	2
(c)	conducted by outdoor staff of institution	—
(d)	without doctor or midwife	—
(iii)	Cases attended at institution (including private maternity and nursing homes) in the area of the local health authority	1,181
(iv)	Emergency cases	—

Two Minnitt analgesia apparatus are being used by the Municipal Midwives.

Number of cases to which Gas and Air administered	43
---	----

Of the 1,433 confinements which took place in the Burgh, the distribution was as follows :

(a)	Conducted in patient's own home :	
(i)	Under National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947	259
(ii)	Not conducted under National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947	16
(b)	Conducted in Forth Park Maternity Hospital :	
(i)	Burgh patients	628
(ii)	County patients	522
(iii)	Domiciliary cases transferred to Forth Park	8

Thirty-two midwives (including the staff of Forth Park Maternity Hospital) notified their intention to practise in the Burgh during 1951. Three applications were received from necessitous expectant mothers, and baby clothing to the value of £4, 4s. 0d. was granted. No recoveries were made.

**TABLE V**  
**Notification of Births Act**

			Live- births	Illegiti- mate	Still- births	Total
No. of births registered in the Burgh			1,384	34	40	1,458
No. of births transferred in .....			22	8	1	31
No. of births transferred out.....			1,406	42	41	1,489
			510	15	19	544
Total Burgh births registered .....			896	27	22	945
No. of births notified in Burgh			Contribution		No. conducted in Forth Park	
Males	Females	Total	Burgh	County	Burgh	County
734	725	1,459	927	532	649	532

### 3. Health Visiting (Section 24)

As in former years each health visitor has her own district, visits for all purposes, and attends the appropriate school under the School Medical Services. The health visitors also act as liaison officers at ante-natal, tuberculosis, V.D., etc., clinics.

				<i>No. visited for first time, excluding cases visited during previous year and cases known to have previously been visited in another area</i>	<i>Total Visits</i>
(a) Local Health Authority Services :					
(i) Expectant Mothers .....				190	212
(ii) Infants .....				927	11,215
(iii) Children (1-5 years) .....				99	16,187
(iv) Cases of Tuberculosis .....				72	1,239
(v) Other cases :					
Adoption of Children (Regulation)					
Act, 1939 .....				29	95
Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act, 1937 .....				—	1
Old Persons .....				57	100
Infectious Diseases .....				216	886
Immunisations and Vaccinations .....				34	34
Domestic Help Scheme .....				195	1,617
Smallpox Contacts .....				5	11
Housing (Medical Conditions) .....				82	82
T.B. Contacts .....				19	19
(b) School Health Services :					
Follow-up work				(See School Report)	
(c) Other Services :					
(i) Cases visited at request of general practitioner .....				3	3
(ii) Cases visited at request of Hospital Board .....				56	151



Of the 164 infants visited at the age of six months, 68 were breast fed, 90 were artificially fed, and 6 were fed by both methods.

#### 4. Home Nursing (Section 25)

From time to time the home nursing services are heavily taxed. There is a growing tendency to delegate many duties to this service which were formerly carried out by general practitioners and the out-patient departments of hospitals. This is undoubtedly relieving the pressure of work on other branches of the National Health Service.

(i) Number of cases attended by home nurses under arrangements made by the local health authority .....	1,117
(ii) Number of visits paid by nurses to above .....	25,944

#### 5. Domestic Help (Section 28)

A relatively large number of domestic helps is employed, and this is a service which has come to stay. Without such a service the position of the chronic sick and the infirm elderly would be even more critical than it is in the Burgh. Some of the home helps, with special experience, are employed in a semi-nursing capacity, and it might be considered whether this valuable type of service should not be recognised as a special category with appropriately higher remuneration than the ordinary home help.

(i) Number of domestic helps employed at end of year :	
(a) Whole-time .....	2
(b) Part-time .....	48
(c) Retaining fee basis .....	—
(ii) Number of cases for which domestic helps were provided during the year .....	220

##### CLASSIFICATION :

(a) Temporary Incapacity (monetary grant up to 7s. per week granted to recipient by National Assistance Board) .....	14
Temporary Incapacity (no grant given) .....	59
(b) Confinements .....	10
(c) Post Confinements .....	10
(d) Chronic Sick (monetary grant up to 7s. per week granted to recipient by N.A.B.) .....	39
Chronic Sick (no grant given) .....	40
(e) Senility (monetary grant up to 7s. per week made to recipient by National Assistance Board) .....	24
(f) Senility (no grant given) .....	24
(iii) Average period of assistance .....	187.4 hours

##### AGED AND INFIRM :

Two home helps with nursing experience are employed in assisting with the above.

#### 6. Vaccination and Immunisation (Section 26)

The most valuable forms of immunisation are undoubtedly those against diphtheria and smallpox. It is doubtful whether measures against whooping-cough are really effective and these are not "pushed"

in the Burgh. The same holds true for measles. Fortunately, the prevailing type of both diseases has been mild. The question of B.C.G. vaccination has received special attention. In addition to the routine protection of contacts it is believed that the school-leaver group should be assessed as to its reaction to tuberculosis. Where protection appears to be necessary, B.C.G. vaccination will be offered. The adolescent is undoubtedly vulnerable, and it is believed that preventive measures applied to this group, while it is still under medical supervision in school, offers the most appropriate channel for the direction of anti-tuberculosis activities.

The following statistics show the work done during the year :

(i) No. of vaccinations by general practitioners			
(Vaccinia)			403
No. of vaccinations by Child Welfare Officer			215
(ii) DIPHTHERIA :			<i>Doses</i>
			<i>First. Maintenance</i>
No. of inoculations by general practitioners			224 22
No. of inoculations by Child Welfare Officer			494 408
(iii) WHOOPING-COUGH :			
No. of first visits only			11
No. of return visits			31
(iv) TUBERCULOSIS :			
No. of contacts vaccinated with B.C.G.			41
No. of others vaccinated with B.C.G.			6

TABLE VI

Vaccination against Smallpox

Number of Persons primarily vaccinated during period :

Year of Birth of Persons	Typical Vaccinia greatest at 7th to 10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction 5th to 7th day	Reaction greatest at 2nd to 3rd day	No local reaction
1951	154	1	4	9
1950	133	2	2	25
1949	20	2	—	3
1948	4	1	2	—
1947	3	1	—	—
1946	3	—	—	—
1945	4	—	—	—
1944	—	—	—	—
1943	3	—	—	—
1942	—	—	—	—
1941	3	—	—	—
1940	2	—	—	—
1939	1	—	—	—
1938	—	—	—	—
1937	—	—	—	—
1936 or earlier	35	1	2	2
TOTALS	365	8	10	39



TABLE VII

Number of Persons re-vaccinated during period :

Year of Birth of Persons	Typical Vaccinia greatest at 7th to 10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction 5th to 7th day	Reaction greatest at 2nd to 3rd day	No local reaction
1951	1	—	1	—
1950	—	—	—	1
1949	—	—	2	1
1948	1	—	2	—
1947	1	1	1	—
1946	2	—	—	—
1945	1	—	—	—
1944	—	—	—	—
1943	—	—	—	—
1942	1	—	—	—
1941	1	—	1	—
1940	1	1	1	—
1939	—	—	—	—
1938	—	—	—	—
1937	1	—	—	—
1936 or earlier	53	37	63	1
TOTALS	63	39	71	3

Note.—No person was specially reported during the period because of actual or alleged complication of vaccination.

TABLE VIII

## Diphtheria Immunisation

Year of Birth of Persons	No. of New Immunisations completed during period	No. of maintenance inoculations given during period	Confirmed cases of Diphtheria during period	
			Immunised	Non-immunised
1951	20	—	—	—
1950	360	—	—	—
1949	139	—	—	—
1948	24	—	—	—
1947	16	—	—	—
1946	25	94	—	—
1945	81	259	—	—
1944	22	36	—	—
1943	3	6	—	—
1942	7	27	—	—
1941	14	2	—	—
1940	6	3	—	—
1939	—	—	—	—
1938	—	1	—	—
1937	—	—	—	—
1936	1	2	—	—
Totals	718	430	Nil	Nil

**TABLE IX**  
**B.C.G. Vaccination**

Group	Tuberculin Tested		Negative Re-actors		Vaccinated	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Nurses	—	26	—	4	—	—
Medical Students	—	—	—	—	—	—
Contacts	82	85	30	32	24	17
Others	4	15	3	6	3	3

NUMBER OF CONTACTS TUBERCULIN TESTED UNDER THE B.C.G. VACCINATION SCHEME

Result	Age Group						Total Test performed
	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and over	
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	
Positive	2 4	11 15	23 16	14 11	2 6	— 1	52 53
Negative	3 6	7 10	15 8	5 6	— 2	— —	30 32
TOTALS	5 10	18 25	38 24	19 17	2 8	— 1	82 85

### 7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care (Section 27)

Reference is made to anti-tuberculosis activities in the previous section. Certain child contacts have been segregated by arrangement with Fife County Council who have set aside Ovenstone Hospital for the purpose. Full use has been made of all propaganda measures. In this connection it may be noted that the Health Department's sound film projector is located permanently at the Lecture Room in Loughborough Road Clinic, but the Department's officers have a regular programme of lectures, etc., during the winter, and tuberculosis is featured prominently in the talks given to guilds, societies, etc. The relatively high incidence of tuberculosis in the Burgh is well known and is a cause for general concern.

During the year goods, comprising beds and bedding, to the value of £48 15s. 6d. were supplied to six applicants suffering from tuberculosis. Clothing to the value of £1 1s. 9d. was also supplied to an applicant who had been discharged from the Northern Hospital, Dunfermline. The financial circumstances in all cases were such that no monetary recovery could be made.

### 8. Control of Infectious Diseases

Infectious diseases were not a cause of anxiety during the year. Administrative measures were taken to ensure that this department was given early information of admissions to the Infectious Diseases Hospital serving the area. Arrangements prior to July, 1948, whereby all admissions of infectious diseases cases were controlled by the Health Department had much to commend it in so far as the Medical Officer of Health had immediate information not only as to the occurrence of actual cases, but also as to cases under observation. Incidentally,

the Medical Officer of Health was in a position to discourage the procedure, wasteful in terms of hospital beds and staff, of admitting indiscriminately cases of scarlet fever. For the ten years preceding the transference of hospitals in 1948, scarlet fever cases were only admitted in exceptional circumstances to the Burgh's fever hospital, with a consequent saving in money. During that period there were no deaths from scarlet fever and there was reason to believe that there were less serious complications occurring in those nursed at home. As far as could be determined the incidence of the disease was not affected one way or the other.

**TABLE X**  
**Infectious Diseases**

Nature of Disease	No. of Cases Notified	Removed to Hospital	Not Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	8	8	—	1
Chickenpox ..	337	1	336	—
Dysentery ..	19	4	15	2
Erysipelas ..	27	1	26	—
Food Poisoning ..	18	—	18	—
Jaundice, acute infective ..	30	2	28	—
Measles ..	933	21	912	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	—	1	—
Pneumonia, acute primary ..	66	28	38	4
Pneumonia, acute influenzal ..	10	5	5	1
Parotitis ..	3	—	3	—
Poliomyelitis, acute ..	7	7	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	2	—	2	—
Scarlet Fever ..	84	11	73	—
Whooping Cough ..	391	9	382	1
Gastro Enteritis ..	26	25	1	1
Malaria ..	1	1	—	—
Rheumatic Fever ..	1	1	—	—
TOTALS ..	1,964	124	1,840	12

**TABLE XI**  
**Pulmonary Tuberculosis**

Sixty-six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1951 as compared with seventy-eight for the previous year.

Age Period	No. of cases notified		No. of notified cases receiving Sanatorium Treatment		No. of deaths of notified cases		Total deaths	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 years ..	4	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 ..	—	5	—	2	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 ..	7	9	6	8	—	—	—	3
25 to 35 ..	8	8	4	7	—	1	2	2
35 to 45 ..	7	3	5	2	4	—	5	—
45 to 65 ..	8	1	3	—	1	—	3	—
65 upwards	3	2	1	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	37	29	20	20	5	1	11	6

One male in the 15/25 age group was not a confirmed case. Five males and two females, whose ages range from 7 to 71 years, were cases transferred from other areas during the year.

**TABLE XII**  
**Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis**

Eight cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1951 as compared with fifteen cases for the previous year.

Age Period	No. of cases notified		No. of notified cases receiving Sanatorium Treatment		No. of deaths of notified cases		Total Deaths	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years .....	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 years .....	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 " .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 " .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 35 " .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 to 45 " .....	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
45 to 65 " .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS .....	3	5	1	1	—	—	—	—

One female, aged 8 years, was transferred from another area during the year.

The site of the disease of the above cases was found to be :

Glands of Neck .....	5	(1m. 4f.)
Sternal Abscess .....	1	(1m. )
Abdomen .....	1	( 1f.)
Bones and Joints .....	1	(1m. )

## 9. Mental Health Service

Full use has been made of the consultant facilities offered by the Regional Hospital Board, and the services of Dr. Boyd have been invaluable in so far as he was always willing to give an expert's assessment of any case which presented difficulty to the officers of the Corporation in advance of any action by the latter.

### MENTAL DEFECTIVES :

	M.	F.
Children (under 16 years) in Institutions .....	1	6
Adults (under private guardianship) .....	5	3
(inc. 1 m. and 1 f. in Abden Home)		
Adults (in Institutions) .....	16	12

### LUNACY :

The following statistics show the position at Fife District Mental Hospital with regard to Burgh patients :

	M.	F.
Number at 31/12/50	74	71
Number certified insane and removed to Fife District Mental Hospital during 1951	17	20
Discharges during 1951	7	10
Deaths during 1951	6	13
Number at 31/12/51	78	68

#### 10. Nurseries and Child-Minders' Regulations Act, 1948

No applications have been received for registration.

#### B. School Health Service

As formerly, school medical inspection has been carried out by the Burgh's staff, and a full report has been forwarded to the Education Authority. A brief summary relating to the calendar year 1951 is given herewith:

	Boys	Girls	Total
Number of parents present at medical inspections:			
(a) with entrant infants	277	290	567
(b) with others (second age group)	208	239	447
(c) at clinics	—	—	90
Number of examinations:			
Entrants	370	343	713
Second age group	441	397	838
Third age group	330	293	623
Vision testing (6-7 years)	406	352	758
Fourth age group	64	60	124
Re-examinations	234	212	446
Non-routines	223	214	437
	2,553	2,400	5,043

Total number of clinic sessions:

(a) General clinics	52
(b) Special clinics—Eye	8

#### MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC

Number of new cases	1,682
Total attendances	4,567
Number of parents present	90

Treatments carried out by Nurses	New Cases	Total Attendances
Head Vermin	3	3
Uncleanliness or Neglect	5	5
Impetigo Contagiosa	93	350
Other Skin Conditions	62	230
Otorrhoea	86	444
Eye Disease (External)	69	144
Other Cases	363	802
Cuts and Bruises	495	1,189
Septic Conditions	385	1,251
Accidents	18	19
Advisory Cases	92	92
Ear Cases	11	38
TOTALS	1,682	4,567

## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

Number of children who were inspected during the year :

Age	Systematic Examina- tions	Special and Emergency Cases	Total
-5	—	1	1
5	255	81	336
6	304	68	372
7	280	55	335
8	312	66	378
9	279	56	335
10	352	53	405
11	298	36	334
12	720	28	748
13	726	15	741
14	514	14	528
15	41	3	44
16	—	—	—
17	—	1	1
TOTALS	4,081	477	4,558
Found to require treatment	2,542	477	3,019
Actually treated by School Dental Officer	1,133	477	1,610
No. of attendances for treatment	2,235	939	3,174
Fillings (a) Permanent teeth	970	109	1,079
(b) Temporary teeth	25	15	40
Extractions (a) Permanent teeth	251	53	304
(b) Temporary teeth	1,062	480	1,542
No. of administrations of a general anaesthetic for extractions	1	5	6
Other operations			
(a) Permanent teeth	937	328	1,265
(b) Temporary teeth	276	280	556
Sessions devoted to inspection	23	—	23
Sessions devoted to treatment	285	106	391
Referred for X-ray	1	6	7
Orthodontic treatment			
No. of new cases	15	—	15
No. of attendances (old and new cases)	371	—	371
TOTALS	10,127	3,275	13,402

Applications were received for boots and clothing as under :

	Boys	Girls
Clothing and Boots	24	22
Clothing only	4	—
Boots only	5	1



	Boys	Girls	Total
Number of Children examined ..	1,205	1,093	2,298
Clean	663	603	1,266
Nits or head vermin	4	29	33
Visions			
Routine	406	352	758
Non-routine	49	60	109
Re-examinations	21	20	41
Referred for examination			
Routine	37	32	69
TOTALS	2,385	2,189	4,574

Twenty-seven children of school age were accommodated for short periods in Children's Convalescent Homes—ten at Humble (Seaforth Sanatorium Trust), and seventeen at the S.L.S.S.C.C. Home, St. Andrews.

### C. Port Health Administration

With the increasing emphasis on port sanitation, it has been deemed advisable to associate the Sanitary inspectorate more closely with Port Health administration. Fifty-three ships from foreign ports entered Kirkcaldy Harbour during 1951 and pratique was granted in all cases.

### D. Food Supply

Shown in the Sanitary Inspector's Report, pages 24-31.

### E. Miscellaneous

#### 1. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 :

The up-grading of Abden Home institution, particularly for Part III cases, has continued. No alternative accommodation has yet been found in the way of old people's homes, etc. The problem of the chronic sick remains as acute as ever and is throwing a great strain on the home help and domiciliary nursing services.

		Part III Accommodation			Part II Accommodation			Hospital	
		M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.
Number at 31/12/50	K.	28	14	—	2	—	—	—	2
	D.	11	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Admitted during 1951	K.	51	8	7	64	4	2	—	—
	D.	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Discharges during 1951	K.	39	7	7	65	4	2	—	1
	D.	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths during 1951	K.	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	D.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number at 31/12/51	K.	32	12	—	1	—	—	—	—
	D.	8	4	—	—	—	—	—	—

K — Kirkcaldy.

D.—Dunfermline.

Registration and inspection of disabled or old persons' homes (Section 37) .....

Nil

Removals (Section 47)	Nil
Care of property (Section 48)	Nil
Burials (Section 50)	9

2. WORK DONE UNDER THE NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION (SCOTLAND) ACT :

No nursing homes proper operate in the Burgh, exemption being granted to Kirkcaldy General Hospital and the Hunter Hospital, now the property of the South-Eastern Regional Hospital Board, Scotland.

3. HEALTH EDUCATION :

Reference has been made under Section 7 to Health Education.

4. FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948 :

Under Part I of the Act the undernoted inspections for purposes of provisions as to health were made :

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities .....	63	44	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authorities .....	340	437	3	—
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .....	5	15	—	—
	408	496	3	—

Cases in which defects were found	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of Case in which Prosecution were Instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences		Owner attending to this			
(a) insufficient .....	2		—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective .....	15	15	—	6	—
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	1	—	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act .....	—	—	—	2	—
(not including offences relating to outwork)					
	18	15	—	9	—

F. General Sanitation

See Sanitary Inspector's Report, pages 31-33.



SANITARY DEPARTMENT,  
3 WEMYSSFIELD,  
KIRKCALDY, *May, 1952.*

To the PROVOST, MAGISTRATES AND TOWN COUNCILLORS  
OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Sanitary and Cleansing Departments for the year 1951.

## HOUSING

### 1. General Progress

The steady improvement in the annual output of new houses since the end of the war received a serious setback in 1951, when only 50 houses were completed for occupation by the Local Authority. No houses were provided during the year by the Scottish Special Housing Association. Over 500 houses, however, were under construction and this should provide a substantial increase in completed houses in the coming year. Shortage of bricks was the principal cause of the slow progress, and for a time bricks were being brought in from England. Of the houses completed, 31 were occupied by families living in overcrowded conditions, including 22 families residing in sub-let rooms. Another 72 cases of overcrowding were relieved by decanting, which in turn helped 46 sub-let families to find houses of their own.

The total number on the waiting list for houses at December was 2,704 as against 2,351 at the end of 1950. The increase can be explained to some extent, by the reduced output of new houses and to the normal growth of the population. There was no indication in the new applications of a marked movement of families from outside the town into the Burgh. On analysis, the waiting list gives the following details :— 1,014 homeless families, living in sub-let rooms ; 401 overcrowded cases ; 126 families in houses classified as unfit ; 84 persons wishing hostel accommodation ; 41 about to be married ; 121 families residing outwith the Burgh ; and 917 families at present occupying houses of passable accommodation but mainly lacking in modern amenities. A door-to-door survey of housing conditions in that part of Links Street bounded by Saunders Street, Methven Road, Buchanan Street, Esplanade and Heggie's Wynd was completed during the summer as the first stage of a redevelopment scheme proposed for this area and the following particulars were noted :—

### Area Surveyed—16 Acres

HOUSES	(number)	312	mainly 2 and 3 storey tenements.
"	(density)	18.3	per acre overall.
"	(condition)	63%	ready for condemnation.
		4%	in good condition.
		33%	in second-class condition.
"	(sizes)	94%	of 3-apt. and under.
		57%	of 2-apt.
FAMILIES	(number)	322	in 312 houses.
"	(sizes)	81%	of 3 units or less.
		13%	single women.
		5%	single men.

It was in parts of the Links area that early Housing Improvements Schemes started after the First War, mainly in-filling gap sites, and in the 1930s, many more houses were closed and demolished. Most of the badly overcrowded families were also cleared from the district before the last war. It was not surprising, therefore, to find a high percentage of small families in the area surveyed, many of whom are old age pensioners living in low-rented houses and who do not wish to leave the locality. Hostel accommodation for single persons and aged couples is being considered in the comprehensive scheme of redevelopment that is now being prepared for the area.

It is also hoped that by the introduction of multi-storied flats along with new three and two-storey dwellings, that the present population will be retained and even increased so that other families who work in the Links will be able to return to the area.

Some 50 plans were submitted for examination throughout the year covering improvements to houses, mainly by the introduction of bathrooms, sculleries and larders. Two shops were converted into modern dwellings. In five cases, improvement grants were approved under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950. Three houses were voluntarily closed by the owners during the year, two had become uninhabitable through roof collapse; the other was beyond reasonable repair. One condemned house was vacated and closed up during the year.

## SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### 2. Milk Supply

All the milk sold in the Burgh is of pasteurised or graded quality and most of it is sold in sealed containers or bottles. Owing to the high cost of non-returnable milk cartons, one producer of certified milk changed over to milk bottles as a less expensive form of distribution; quite a number of the customers would have preferred the non-returnable cartons to have been continued. Five new milk vans were introduced during the year replacing worn-out vehicles; their improved design and covered-in roofs will protect the bottled milk from rain and direct sun. Although no complaints were received

about the poor keeping quality of any milk supply, there was a mild repetition of the fishy taste and smell of milk supplied by one retailer and produced in first-class dairy premises in the County. The abnormality occurred on two occasions, once in early summer and again in the autumn. The County Authorities dealt with the matter at the farm concerned, the milk from one cow being rejected for a time; the bottling plant also needed some attention. The unsatisfactory appearance of milk bottles used by one "Certified" producer was also the cause of complaint by a customer to this department; a change of detergent in the washing water improved their appearance and cleanliness. Chips of glass were reported in two milk bottles; an examination of a number of bottles at one dairy revealed many with chipped necks; these were discarded.

Routine inspections were made throughout the year to the two pasteurising plants both during milk processing and at plant cleaning operations; the plants functioned satisfactorily. An occasional examination of the temperature graphs was made to ensure compliance with the Order. The Kirkcaldy and District Co-operative Society introduced narrow-necked milk bottles with overlapping tinfoil caps when their bottling plant was replaced this year. It is likely that the S.C.W.S. Creamery, Dysart, will be making a similar change-over in the near future. The rinsing and dripping of milk cans called for some extra attention at one creamery, and while it was noted that most of the milk cans in use were in good repair, a few old cans come into circulation when milk is plentiful. More cans of the type approved by the M.M.B. are being used. The sealing of milk cans by producers and creameries outwith the Burgh before delivery to a common carrier is not being carried out in terms of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1934; while the matter has been under discussion and some measures have been taken to enforce the requirements, progress has been slow.

Dairy byres were visited on 50 occasions, mainly at milking periods; cleanliness of premises and equipment was found to be generally good. One dairyman was warned that the cleanliness of his byres must be improved. The drainage system at one dairy farm with a private septic tank became defective some time after a new water main to the farm had been laid and nuisance and flooding occurred; the position caused concern since the defects were slow in being remedied. Measures were taken to prevent nuisance from smells and flies during warm weather. Proposals to connect one dairy farm by new drainage to the main sewer and provide a new dairy and scullery were under discussion at the end of the year. Proposals by the same owners about providing a new dairy byre at another farm were also under consideration. General repairs were completed at one small dairy farm. Housing extension removed one dairy farm from the register not long after it had come within the Burgh. Milking machines are in use at eight dairies. There are 5 exempted dairies, mainly at smallholdings, where 8 cows are kept. Milk is used mainly for calf feeding. Details of dairy premises registered and licenced in 1951 were as follows:—

(1) REGISTRATIONS: MILK AND DAIRIES (Scotland) ACT, 1914

	<i>Number</i>
Dairy byres capable of housing 245 cows (actual cows 217) .....	9
Milk retailers retailing within the Burgh .....	20
Retail shops where only bottled milk is sold .....	20
Producers and wholesalers who do not sell by retail .....	6

(2) LICENCES: MILK (Special Designations) ORDERS

	<i>Number</i>
Supplementary licences to sell certified milk .....	1
Dealers licenced to sell certified milk .....	2
Supplementary licences to sell T.T. Milk .....	3
Dealers licenced to sell T.T. Milk .....	4
Producers licenced to produce T.T. Milk .....	4
Dealers licenced to sell Pasteurised Milk .....	3
Pasteurisers' licences .....	2
Dealers licenced to sell T.T. Milk (wholesale only) .....	1

3. Milk (Special Designations) Orders

Samples of milk submitted for bacteriological analysis were as follows:—

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Conformed</i>	<i>Did not Conform</i>
Certified Milk .....	21	16	5
Tuberculin Tested Milk .....	84	79	2
Pasteurised Milk .....	55	55	—
	<u>160</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>7</u>

The seven samples which did not conform showed the presence of B. Coli in 1/10th or 1/100th of a millilitre and excessive bacterial counts. Fourteen samples of ordinary sweet milk were also submitted for bacteriological analysis during the year; all had bacterial counts under 200,000 and were free from B. Coli in 1/100th of a millilitre. These are very satisfactory results.

4. Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928

During the year, a total of 254 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst consisting of the following various articles:—

<i>Foods</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Not Conforming</i>
Milk .....	174	5
Ice Cream .....	36	12
Mince .....	4	4
Sausages .....	5	—
Butter .....	4	—
Margarine .....	4	—
Cooking Fat .....	8	—
Meat Paste .....	2	—



Beer .....	2	—
Salad Cream (1), Branston Sauce (1), Tomato Ketchup (1) .....	3	—
Rich Fruit Cake (1), Confections (1) .....	2	—
Mince Loaf (1), Jellied Veal (1) .....	2	—
Jam (1), Chocolate Spread (1), Coffee Essence (1) .....	3	—
Whipping Compound (1), Self-raising Flour (1) .....	2	—
Mustard .....	1	—
Baking Powder (1), Curry Powder (1) .....	2	—
	<hr/> 254	<hr/> 21

MILK.—Three test samples and two formal samples of milk did not conform to Regulations and warnings were issued in each case. The average quality of the milk supply as deduced from the 174 samples submitted to the Public Analyst was as undernoted. Milk fat was slightly higher than last year.

Water .....	87.36
Total Solids .....	12.64
Milk Fat .....	3.98
Non-Fatty Solids .....	8.66
	<hr/> 100.00

MINCE (4), SAUSAGES (5).—Small quantities of sulphur dioxide were found in the mince samples outwith the permitted period. All the sausage samples complied with requirements.

ICE CREAMS (36).—The Food (Ice Cream) Order prescribes the standards of ice cream to be not less than 5.00 per cent. fat, 7.50 per cent. of milk solids and 10.00 per cent. of sugar. The maximum, minimum and average percentages of these ingredients found in the samples examined were as follows:—

	Milk		
	Fat %	Solids %	Sugar%
Maximum .....	16.96	12.50	16.02
Minimum .....	1.13	6.13	10.14
Average .....	6.13	8.70	12.20

Ten of the test samples contained less than 5% of fat and two samples were deficient in fat and milk solids. Visits were made to each of the manufacturers concerned and methods explained to ensure a correctly balanced mixture. The majority of the offenders were elderly Italians who maintained that additional fat would be detrimental to the flavour of the finished article. Later samples taken, however, proved that the mix had been adjusted to give the required standard of fat.

RICH FRUIT CAKE (1), CONFECTIONS (1).—These samples were submitted for analysis after complaint of sickness following consumption. In both cases, nothing of an injurious nature which would cause illness could be detected by the Analyst.

BEER (2).—An oily film or scum was found to be forming on beer after bottling at a local bottling plant, and there was a fairly heavy sediment. The Analyst reported that the sediment suggested a secondary fermentation and the oily film appeared to be a contamination from the bottling plant. The latter was thoroughly cleansed.

FOOD LAWS.—No infringements of the Labelling of Food Order, 1950, were found during the course of inspections; the necessity for shopkeepers complying with the requirements was emphasised on many occasions. There were no seizures of food during the year in terms of Section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, and no administrative action was necessary in respect of the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations and the Food and Drugs (Whalemeat) Regulations. Whalemeat is seldom seen in this town.

### 5. Food Premises and Hygiene

Despite restrictions and scarcity of certain building materials, progress continued to be made in the improvement of food shops and premises. Judging by the preliminary plans and proposals submitted during the year for examination, however, much more substantial alterations would be carried out if limiting factors were not in operation. In a number of cases the present shop premises are too small to effect a satisfactory improvement and the need for adjoining premises or housing accommodation, which cannot be released just now, would be necessary. It is much easier to effect alterations to front shops by the introduction of modern fronts, display cabinets and counters, and means to prevent contamination by dust and flies. Back shops are not so easily altered and improved. Nevertheless, some splendid alterations to food premises were completed this year. By Kirkcaldy Burgh Extension, etc. Act, 1950, a greater measure of control is given over rooms where food intended for sale is prepared or stored, and provision is made for the registration of manufacturers of preserved food and their premises. During 1951, a detailed survey of butchers' premises and preserved food manufacturers was being undertaken.

In furtherance of the Town Council's clean food campaign and in conjunction with the Scottish Council for Health Education, further lectures, illustrated with films, were given by Dr. Mearns to shopworkers in the Third and Fourth Wards, and at one meeting, Mr. Allan W. Ritchie, Food Hygiene Officer, Department of Health, also spoke. Talks by the Sanitary Inspector and staff to various men's and women's organisations have been continued not only to spread the knowledge of the prevention of food-borne infections among shop assistants and food handlers but to keep the public informed of the efforts that are being made to reduce sickness through carelessly handled food. As a result of these meetings and talks, it was found that a very real interest is being taken in this question of cleanly handled food by the public. Retail shops which do not keep in step with modern methods of hygiene and the hygienic display and distribution of foodstuffs may find this a disadvantage in the future. Pamphlets stressing the need for cleanliness of the shop personnel in all their habits and the protection of foodstuffs in shops against contamination by

flies and vermin were also distributed. A few food shops have posted notices advising that dogs should not be brought into the premises, as an aid to cleanliness. This is commendable as far as it goes, but it would be more desirable to discontinue the display of food and vegetables in open containers at floor level or outside shop doors to prevent the risk of fouling by animals.

Public-house premises continue to be modernised, so far as present building restrictions will allow, and some means to ensure efficient glass washing is being introduced at most, be it by the installation of glass cleaning apparatus or by the use of detergents in the polished metal washing sinks. Glass washing machines of the latest type have been installed at two public houses. These machines are electrically driven and first rinse the glasses with hot water, pass them through a second hot rinse containing a cleansing detergent and they are finally washed in cold water. These machines are placed at counter level and are a tremendous advance over swilling glasses in a sink of plain water, renewed with clean water at infrequent intervals.

Altogether, 780 inspections were made to food premises in 1951 ; most of the premises were found to be clean and well conducted. Measures to reduce flies had to be stressed in several cases and much more needs to be done in this connection by businesses where food wastes and offal have to be temporarily stored on the premises. Fly proofing of windows could be extended with advantage in many cases, and the temporary covering of food trays with fly-proof covers of stockinette, cellophane or some of the modern food protectors, would prevent flies and dust nuisance on food which had otherwise been carefully prepared. Infestation and contamination by mice has also to be guarded against in the food trades, and the Department's service of help, advice and destruction of vermin was used on several occasions throughout the year. It is pleasing to repeat that rats in food premises in Kirkcaldy are practically unknown.

The more regular collection of fish-boxes from fish friers and fresh fish vendors and the thorough washing of the boxes immediately after being emptied lessened complaints of smells and flies from these businesses. Modern gas-fired ranges are rapidly replacing the old type fish and chip fryer. Cleanliness in bakehouses is being improved by the adoption of easier cleansed wall and floor surfaces in some premises ; insect pests are also more readily controlled when surfaces are smooth and free from cracks.

Early in the year a notable advance in food hygiene took place when a new all-metal meat delivery van went into service to transport meat from the Burgh Abattoir to the retail butcher's shop. The van took the place of a tarpaulin covered open type lorry which had been the subject of criticism in the past, mainly because carcases had to be piled on the floor. In the new van all the meat is hung in quarters from roof hanging rails and there is ample room for offal containers on the floor. The van is giving good service, although, of course, the meat has still to be handled in the course of its transfer from the van to the shop. One tarpaulin covered meat delivery vehicle is still in use, mainly for the transport of sides of beef from the Abattoir to large butchery premises, where cold storage accommodation can hang this weight of meat. Quartered meat is much easier to handle

than sides of meat for delivery to retailers, but even so, it is felt that a method whereby meat is untouched from the time it leaves the slaughterhouse until it is handed over to the consumer, should be the aim of the future. With the extension of the Burgh, more travelling shop vans went into service ; some of these are roomy and well fitted out ; none, however, is fitted with handwashing facilities. In the full development of a hygienic food delivery service one would expect to find some provision of this kind, or alternatively, the pre-wrapping of all goods sold.

## 6. Unsound Food

During the year the following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption ; wherever possible, the condemned food was used for animal feeding.

	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Ozs.</i>
Fresh Fruit .....	16	14
Canned Fruit .....	2,952	—
Fresh Vegetables .....	30	10½
Canned Vegetables .....	1,241	11¼
Fresh Fish .....	87	12
Canned Fish .....	98	15¼
Canned Meat .....	3,476	4¾
Canned Meat and Vegetables .....	2	6
Canned Milk .....	247	1½
Canned Soup .....	699	3
Canned Jam .....	261	13½
Oat Flakes .....	2,016	—
Raw Oats .....	3,360	—
Miscellaneous .....	3,352	12
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>17,843</b>	<b>7¾</b>

## 7. Meat

In his report, Mr. Walsh, Slaughterhouse Superintendent, provides the following statistics for 1951 :—

Class of Animals	Number of Animals			Weight (in lbs.) of condemned meat and offals
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned	
Cattle .....	4,466	76	93	107,284
Sheep .....	20,945	38	92	5,889
Pigs .....	871	11	23	4,840
Calves .....	1,829	41	1	2,424
<b>TOTALS</b> .....	<b>28,111</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>120,437</b>



The total weight of meat condemned amounted to 23 tons 2 cwts. and 13 lbs. ; condemned offals amounted to 30 tons 13 cwts. and 24 lbs. Sales of by-products were as follows :—

Meat and Bone Meal . . . . .	12 tons 1 cwt.
Dried Blood . . . . .	16 cwts.
Technical Tallow . . . . .	5 tons 17 cwts.

The slaughterhouse is of modern construction and equipped with hot and cold water supplies. A complete inspection of all carcasses is made in accordance with the Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland) 1932.

## 8. Ice Cream Premises

Progress was maintained during the year regarding the registration of premises and vehicles ; 5 premises and 10 vehicles were granted registration in terms of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948. The total number of premises and vehicles registered by the Local Authority up to the end of the year is as follows :—

Manufacturing Premises . . . . .	15
Retail Premises . . . . .	25
Retail Vehicles (Motors) . . . . .	27
Retail Vehicles (Horse) . . . . .	7
Retail Vehicles (Barrows, etc.) . . . . .	13

One registration was relinquished during the year. All the applications submitted before the 1st November, 1948, have now been dealt with. There are 27 shopkeepers retailing pre-wrapped ice cream in the town.

Fifty-two inspections were made to ice cream manufacturing premises throughout the year. Several inspections of retail vans were carried out on Sundays, and it was found that the majority were kept clean and had washing facilities in working order. Those not complying fully were informed. Most of the employees selling from these vehicles carried their Registration Cards.

There is still a great demand for ice lollies by children ; the manufacture and sale of this commodity is on the increase, due mainly to its low retail price. As mentioned before, on hygienic grounds, this new line will require to be watched.

## GENERAL SANITATION

### 9. Nuisances and Sanitary Defects

During the year, 417 complaints were received from members of the public and 32 nuisances and sanitary defects were discovered by the Inspectors in the course of their duties.

The abatement of nuisances necessitated 764 inspections and revisits. There were 140 intimations and notices served in terms of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, and the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892.

The following table shows the number and type of nuisances dealt with during the year :—

1. Dirty houses and premises cleaned	8
2. Dirty W.C. apartments cleaansed	4
3. Dirty stairs and passages cleaned	4
4. Dirty areas and courts cleaned	5
5. Verminous houses sprayed and fumigated	12
6. Other verminous conditions remedied	40
7. Dampness in houses abated or improved	101
8. Defective sinks repaired or renewed	4
9. Defective water closets repaired or renewed	10
10. Defective rhones, waste pipes, etc., repaired	20
11. Choked sinks, tubs and water closets cleared	2
12. Choked drains and traps cleared	28
13. Accumulation of rubbish removed	17
14. Accumulation of manure removed	2
15. Keeping of hens, dogs, cats dirty	6
16. Miscellaneous nuisances	157
	<hr/>
	420
	<hr/>

There were less choked drains, traps and W.C.s dealt with this year than usual but complaints of dampness in houses showed a marked increase. Dampness in old houses where no damp-proof course has been built into the stone walls is not easily remedied ; in most cases surface treatment either on the outside or inside walls had to be accepted as a remedy ; this can be no more than a temporary expedient. There is now a number of damp-proofing compounds on the market which can be applied easily by the occupier before redecoration is carried out ; this should be used regularly if dampness rises up the inside walls. The fact that some new houses are not entirely free from dampness and condensation at times indicates that weather changes also produce moisture on inside walls and passages without defects existing in the structure itself.

The measures started a few years ago to minimise nuisance from flies, were continued during the summer ; particular attention was given to stables, piggeries, farms, fish shops, butchers' shops and their environs and at the Corporation refuse tips. The beaches and foreshore used by the public were again band-sprayed with a D.D.T. solution to reduce fly breeding near the outfall sewers. Verminous houses sprayed or fumigated amounted to twelve cases against five cases in 1950 ; while this is a relatively small number of cases for a town of this size, it points to the need for vigilance in the suppression of domestic pests. Woodworm added to the list of other verminous conditions found and this pest wants watching, especially by the preventive treatment of furniture prior to the egg-laying season which occurs in the warm days of June, July and August. Furniture, particularly on the back and undersides, should be treated twice each summer, using a special D.D.T. liquid sold at ironmongers ; several

householders, with experience of the damage caused by woodworm are known to carry out preventive treatment annually. A few landlords have also carried out measures to reduce woodworm infestation in the fabric of their properties.

Tents and vans can cause nuisance if they stand on a site not provided with water and some form of sanitation. A case of this kind arose on private ground near Seafield, where a weekly charge was being made by the owner ; some form of sanitation was requested. The owner cleared the site and posted a notice, " No Camping," rather than go to the expense involved. The vans scattered to other not very satisfactory sites in the Burgh and with the advent of summer " moved on." One site was filled up again with caravans and their occupants by the end of the year ; while they have the use of a water tap in the open and a public convenience some distance away, nuisances of various kinds are not easily avoided ; complaints by nearby residents are not infrequent, and often justified. Summer camping was on a reduced scale again. The annual fair in April did not call for other than the usual measures for supervision and cleanliness during its ten-day stay. The increased number of shows and vans hindered refuse collection and ways to speed this up another year were under consideration. Means to reduce oil drip on to road surfaces from motors working during the fair must also have attention for nuisance as well as possible damage being caused.

Repairs to house property, especially of the low-rental group, continue to be a problem ; with rising costs of both labour and material, one can only expect the very minimum of upkeep to be done. Out-buildings such as wash-houses and coalhouses are showing the defects most of all since they are of very much lighter construction than the more solidly-built walls and woodwork of the houses themselves. Even so, old tenement property cannot be improved or reconstructed readily for its very stability makes it all the more costly to alter. A great many old properties are being allowed to drift into a chronic state of disrepair and condemnation and clearance of the site looks like the only solution.

## 10. Rat Destruction

Altogether 270 visits and inspections were made to the 71 premises where rats or mice were found this year. No serious infestation of rats was discovered or reported but mice were found in a number of shops and at three hospitals. All the infestations handled were kept under control by the co-operation of the occupiers working along with the Council's part-time officer, specially trained in this work. In practice, it is found that mice are often more difficult to eradicate than rats. Corporation refuse dumps were treated regularly ; rabbits more than rats was the problem, however, at Balbarton Tip ; gassing measures were introduced successfully. Rats were discovered to be active again at Chapel sewage works after a quiet period ; the presence of a stream and ample long grass coverage nearby hid their activities till late autumn. In December a check-up of stacks of grain still to be threshed at farms and smallholdings in the Burgh was made ;

occupiers were reminded of the obligation to fence the base of stacks with wire netting to prevent the escape of rats and mice. Some occupiers do this as a matter of routine in their own interests ; others are not so particular. Vermin known to be destroyed throughout the year numbered 108 rats and 579 mice ; this is a reduction on last year's figures.

## 11. Water

The following information is extracted from the Water Engineer's report for the year ended 15th May, 1952.

" The grand total daily consumption of water, exclusive of compensation water was 2,555,260 gallons being a daily average of 52.3 gallons per head per day. Water supplied to Dysart and Gallatown areas from the high pressure mains is treated with chlorine at Holl filter station. Water entering the service reservoir at Carberry is sterilised by the chloramine process, enabling a residual dosage of chlorine to be carried forward to combat any possible later pollution. No shortage of water was experienced during the year, the rainfall being above the average. Rainfall was 40.16 inches at Lothrie and 36.50 inches at Carberry. The original water works were constructed 85 years ago and the additions and alterations that have been made from time to time have not been in ratio with the increase in consumption. In the event of two successive dry years, the position would be serious. The filtration plant is working right up to full capacity, and additional plant is necessary."

Two samples of drinking water were submitted for analysis by the Sanitary Inspector, both samples were reported to be of good quality and bacteriologically very good.

## 12. Factories

The number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 354 mechanical and 63 non-mechanical. Some 496 inspections were made to factories mainly in connection with cleanliness and sanitary accommodation. Sixty-two visits were made to bakehouses regarding regular lime-washing of wall surfaces and general cleanliness. Nine notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories about unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences and overdue lime-washing ; all were remedied. Nine other cases of defective or unsuitable sanitary conveniences discovered by the staff were also repaired by the owners satisfactorily.

During the year plans were submitted in respect of additional sanitary conveniences, alterations and extensions at 25 factories and for one new factory.

## 13. Shops Acts

There were 5 new shops opened at two housing schemes and 2 in other areas, bringing the total number of shops in the Burgh to 776. There were 21 changes of tenancy during the year ; these shops were surveyed again in terms of the Shops Act, 1934. Some 324 visits



were made to shops in respect of the exhibition of the statutory notices and while a few infringements were found, they were immediately rectified on being drawn to the attention of the shopkeeper.

The evening closing hours and weekly half-holiday requirements are mainly complied with by most shopkeepers wholeheartedly, and towards the end of the year, it was surprising to find shops recently opened in new housing areas not conforming to the law. The "mixed" nature of the businesses carried on made interpretation of the requirements somewhat difficult for the shopkeeper to conform and the matter was still having attention and supervision at the year's end.

Approval was given to a display and sale of wearing apparel in a local hall, subject to the goods being on exhibition only on the day of the weekly half-holiday; the same conditions applied to a display and sale of wireless sets and furniture.

#### **14. Places of Public Refreshment**

A total of 115 visits were made to these premises; one new place recently opened brought the total of registered premises in the town to 45. No infringements of the Byelaws was reported or found.

#### **15. Lodging Houses**

Although it was agreed between the owners, the occupier and the Local Authority that Birrell Street Wynd lodging house would come to an end at 28th November, it was found that 20 lodgers still remained at that date, and afterwards. Only 2 lodgers took advantage of the offer of alternative accommodation at Abden Home. The lodging house premises are worn-out and cannot be kept or made satisfactory. The main problem is alternative accommodation for the persons to be displaced; institutional shelter is not wanted, and, of course, cannot be offered to men in employment, of which there is a number.

The other lodging house at Mid Street, which is practically full up with lodgers, is also a very old building. Only the minimum of repairs were being carried out here because of rising costs and it was noted that bedding replacements were longer delayed nowadays, due to high prices of textiles. The attention of the occupier was drawn several times to the lack of cleanliness of the bedding. Twenty inspections were made to this house. At the end of the year there were 20 lodgers at Birrell Street Wynd and 24 at Mid Street.

#### **16. Smoke, Grit and Fumes**

During the year, 18 complaints of smoke nuisance were received and 6 defects at domestic chimneys remedied after investigation. Fifty-three observations of factories and works' chimneys were recorded during 1951 and 20 inspections of boiler plant and furnaces carried out. In 9 cases it was necessary to send warning letters about the excessive discharge of smoke. No further complaints were received during the year about smoke nuisance caused by railway engines during shunting operations or from stationary engines standing in loop-lines. It is very satisfactory to report that action taken by British Railways the previous year had such good results.

It is also gratifying to record that several factory owners asked for the services of our specially trained assistant to instruct their boilerhouse firemen in correct methods of stoking and also for advice to prevent smoke nuisance from boiler plants. Careful stoking is one of the simplest, easiest and cheapest ways of overcoming excessive smoke discharge and must have attention by all firemen if smoke is to be kept under control. The drift of smoke and soot over the higher parts of the town, now being developed for housing, will make this question of smoke control a much more important one in the future.

Smoke, grit and dust nuisance from the Gas Works continued to give rise to much complaint by householders residing in the district surrounding these premises, and fumes from the Tully Gas Plant are far from pleasant on occasion. The matter was discussed at the Health Committee and a sub-committee met representatives from the Gas Board in July. Assurances were given that everything possible would be done to eliminate further complaints; while there was a temporary improvement, a permanent remedy has not yet been found. Some progress was made to abate the fumes nuisance from a cement mixing plant at a linoleum factory, although the fumes were pretty excessive in July when plant improvements were being fitted. Fume washing plant was coupled up to a group of four pans about this time and thereafter worked effectively. Similar plant was in course of completion for another set of four pans and under construction for a third group. A problem of acid corrosion in the heavily galvanised equipment of the fume washing plant has developed which may upset the successful advantages which were anticipated. Complaints of smoke and fumes from the Saturating Plant at another linoleum factory were also investigated; on occasion it was found that smoke emission from these premises could cause offence. The firm is carrying out alterations and extensions to these works which should eliminate excessive smoke discharge, but the question of alleviating the bitumen fumes is not likely to be possible to any extent. Here industry has more or less surrounded a pocket of dwelling houses. Smoke nuisance from hospital boiler plant was also the subject of complaint and investigation; advice and assistance were given to ensure that stoking was being done correctly; this produced some improvement, but not a complete remedy. The boiler plant is old and is now being taxed beyond its capacity. New boiler plant is required and possibly mechanical stokers, but the cost and the steel supply position may prevent an early solution to this problem. Ward waste, which is burned in the hospital furnaces, is to be treated in a separate incinerator soon. The burning of rope waste and linoleum waste in a nearby quarry has also been stopped and controlled methods of tipping these materials introduced. Proposals were submitted by one linoleum firm to install new boiler plant and mechanical stokers at one factory and carry a steam main over a roadway to another factory. When this scheme is completed, there should be one works' chimney less in the town.

The classes in Boiler House Practice for firemen and stokers came to a successful conclusion in the spring, and 15 candidates were granted

certificates of proficiency at a function in the Beveridge Halls, where representatives from the Scottish Fuel Efficiency Committee, and the Ministry of Fuel and Power joined with members of the Health Committee in supporting the wholehearted efforts that were being made locally to reduce smoke and save fuel. The classes were resumed again in the Autumn and were extended to cover a preliminary course and an intermediate course of the syllabus of the City and Guilds of London Institute in Boilerhouse Practice. The response was poor—only three candidates for the preliminary grade and eight for the intermediate grade. In an effort to keep the courses going, the two grades were combined but attendance became so irregular latterly that the class was brought to an end by the evening class authorities.

## 17. Burial Grounds

The three main burial grounds in the town, Kirkcaldy, Hayfield and Dysart, are managed by the Parks Department and the cemeteries are maintained in excellent condition. Improvements are being made at Dysart to form a new entrance and drainage extension at Hayfield is under consideration. At the old burying grounds in the Burgh, the following burials took place in 1951 :—

Abbotshall ; old burial ground section	18
Pathhead Feuars	1
Sinclairtown Feuars	Nil
Dysart Barony	4
St. Serfs	Nil
Kirkcaldy Old Church	Nil

Arrangements are in course of being made to have regular grass cutting done at one disused burying ground to improve amenity.

## 18. Rivers Pollution

There was no abatement of the gross pollution of the East Burn in its lower reaches by the waste water from a felt factory. The grey, muddy appearance of the water along with the heavy deposit of solids on the bed of the stream makes the area most unattractive in appearance and several verbal complaints of smell from the burn were reported during the warm weather. Conditions improve when heavy rains flush the burn, but the normal flow of water is unable to cope with the almost continuous discharge of waste water from the factory. The question of taking this trade waste into a new sewer to be laid along the burn, or by separate pipe to join the new outfall sewer proposed at Pathhead Sands has not yet been decided.

Reed growth continued to flourish in the Tiel Burn between the two bridges although the upper section cleared by the adjoining proprietors two years ago has not shown evidence of further growth since. Two photographs of the reeds in this stream were taken during the summer for record purposes. One complaint about the risk of flooding on land further up stream, due to the excessive reed growth in the lower reaches was passed to the Burgh Engineer for attention.

Powers were obtained in the recent Kirkcaldy Burgh Extension, Etc. Act to deal with the clearing of streams where the proper flow of water is obstructed or impeded.

## **19. Schools, Cinemas, Public Buildings and Dance Halls**

Forty-eight inspections were made to schools throughout the year and any small structural defects found were promptly remedied. All the schools showed that regular attention was given to thorough cleaning and painting of classrooms, and limewashing of outside sanitary conveniences was found to be carried out periodically at the majority of schools.

Plans were submitted for the erection of a new Primary School for 750 pupils at a large housing scheme and a new Junior Secondary School in the same housing area will be opened early in the coming year. The sanitary provisions at this school are of a much higher order than formerly, and all the conveniences are inside the main buildings.

Thirty inspections were made to Dance Halls, Cinemas and similar premises ; it was found that the usual high standard of cleanliness was being maintained. Alterations to the heating system and improved ventilation at a large cinema were approved ; proposals were originally discussed before the war.

Plans were submitted for community halls at three large housing schemes, one new church hall, the installation of new sanitary conveniences at two church halls, one cinema and at one public hall. Additional sanitary accommodation at the Adam Smith Halls is under consideration and much needed.

A large dance hall of modern design on the Esplanade was completely destroyed by fire.

## **20. Offices**

Fifty-two visits were made to offices during the year, mainly in connection with the provision of adequate sanitary accommodation. Of those inspected, the majority were found to provide for both male and female employees and most had suitable washing facilities. In a few, toilet accommodation was found to be very limited due mainly to the lack of space for extension.

Plans were submitted for the erection of two new offices and for additional sanitary accommodation to another.

## **21. Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

This Act came into operation on the 1st November, 1951, making compulsory the licensing of premises on which flock is manufactured or stored for sale and also the registration of premises where filling materials are used in the manufacture of furniture or bedding.

The new Act, which takes the place of the Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928, creates a comprehensive control over a wide range of filling materials.

There are no premises in the Burgh where flock is manufactured or stored. Three premises were registered, however, where the



manufacture of new furniture and bedding involves the use of filling materials. Premises where repairs only are carried out are exempt from registration.

## 22. Public Cleansing

The functions of the Cleansing Department assist materially in the maintenance of health in the community by the removal of refuse from our midst. The service went on without interruption throughout the year, and there were few complaints. Recovery of salvage in the form of wastepaper, textiles, scrap metals and tins and other utilisable products is also a responsibility of the department. There is a national need for these raw materials and the revenue benefits local rates.

For the year ending 15th May, 1951, the total cost of public cleansing, which includes collection and disposal of house refuse and salvage, the removal of a limited quantity of trade refuse, street cleansing, the supervision and maintenance of public conveniences, was £27,312. This is equal to a cost of a little over 10/11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per head of the population. It was found to cost 17/6 to collect and dispose of a ton of refuse, based on estimated weights, calculated from quarterly weighings over a steelyard.

Refuse collection calls were continued thrice weekly in all the main parts of the town and for all housing schemes built prior to the war. The twice weekly refuse collection is given to houses built since the war, and this has been developed as an afternoon service, to employ fully the refuse vehicles. In the days when horse-drawn vehicles were used for refuse collection, an all-day service would have been frowned upon, but with modern rear and side loading vehicles the work can be performed practically without offence. An improvement still to come, however, is the general use of standard covered dustbins, which would replace the boxes, buckets and other receptacles still laid along the kerbside at the mercy of wind, weather and prowling animals to await collection.

Two new refuse vehicles went into service during the year and an order was placed for another. House salvage is collected by trailers attached to the refuse vehicles; shop salvage is collected separately and special collections of salvage are made, where necessary. There was a drop in waste paper recovery towards the end of the year, due to the high price for this commodity and the fact that a great many organisations had started waste paper collection schemes among members to augment funds. Warnings had to be issued in two cases where interference with salvage laid out for collection by the Cleansing Department had occurred.

The Street Cleansing Service is equipped with a mechanical street sweeper-collector and a motor gully emptier; twenty-three men are regularly employed on street sweeping duties, and a number of part-time sweepers assist each afternoon. Modern street orderly barrows are in use. Measures to reduce litter by the introduction of more litter baskets has received consideration by the Council and more litter receptacles are likely to be provided throughout the town next year.

There was an increase of over 1,000 tons in the quantity of refuse and street sweepings deposited at the two disposal points, Balbarton and Gallatown quarry. Altogether, over 18,000 tons were handled, excluding soil and other covering materials which were used to blind the refuse as tipping proceeded. A further large tonnage of soil is due to come into Gallatown Quarry from housing schemes to assist with the formation of the Sports Stadium and progress was made with refuse tipping along the west and south sides of these grounds. It is difficult to prevent indiscriminate dumping and interference with deposited refuse at Gallatown. These problems do not arise to the same extent at Balbarton Tip, which is about four miles away from the town.

The new public convenience for ladies and gentlemen in Hill Street was opened by the end of the year, and the improvements and small additions to the public conveniences at east end High Street and at Gallatown and Dysart were also completed. Electric light was introduced into Kirk Wynd gents' and the redecoration of these premises carried out. The east Esplanade conveniences have been fitted with larger signs and more directional signs are to be introduced for this place and the other Esplanade lavatories.

Unfortunately, the public conveniences still continue to receive a considerable amount of wilful damage and abuse which is costly to repair. The patent slot locks are frequently damaged in an effort to extract the coppers. It should be more widely known that the money locks are emptied regularly and never hold more than a few pence at any time.

### 23. Sewers and Drains

The Burgh Engineer's Department is responsible for the supervision of sewers, the testing of new drains and the approval of alterations thereto. The Sanitary Department deals with defects at existing drains and these are detailed in the section dealing with nuisances and sanitary defects.

In furtherance of the Town Council's decision to reduce sewage pollution on the foreshore, progress was made at Pathhead by the completion of comminutor plant on the East Burn sewer outfall. Since a new and enlarged outfall sewer will be necessary at the East Burn as a final solution to beach contamination in this area, provision has been made in the recently completed works to link up with the Castle Brae outfall sewer, which is also fitted with a comminutor, to make one main outlet to the sea. After extensive tidal surveys, the Burgh Engineer reported towards the end of the year that a suitable discharge point for a new outfall had been located about 200 feet south-east of the harbour wall, which would allow for discharge at all states of the tide without pollution of Pathhead Beaches taking place. The Town Council gave approval to these proposals and for submission of the scheme to the Department of Health with a view to a start being made with this work in 1952. The two outfall sewers at Kirkcaldy beaches will need to be tackled in similar fashion, at the earliest opportunity.

The private drainage from a dairy farm on the eastern boundary of the Burgh caused some concern when it was found that severe chokage had developed at several places bringing sewage to the ground surface near a dwelling and round about other buildings. Spraying with D.D.T. and other insecticides and disinfectants kept flies and nuisance in check but it took some time to get matters satisfactorily remedied, since the case involved legal technicalities, which were far more difficult to overcome than the practical one of laying a considerable length of new six-inch drainage.

#### **24. Pharmacy and Poison Acts and Orders**

The Council's list of authorised sellers of Part II poisons included 25 shopkeepers covering 37 separate premises. Visits to these places did not reveal any infringements and bottles and containers examined were found to be correctly labelled. Registers were in order and up-to-date ; deputies were named, where required. It was not found necessary to submit any samples of Part II poisons for analysis by the Public Analyst.

#### **25. Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs**

The main purpose of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926, is to provide remedies in the case of misrepresentation and to prevent fraud in the sale of fertilisers and feeding stuffs. Six samples were submitted for analysis and the results compared with the statutory statement or warranty given. The three feeding stuffs examined, baby chick pellets, national poultry food and meat and bone meal, all conformed. Of the three fertilisers analysed, superphosphate complied ; dried blood showed an excess of nitrogen over the guarantee and the general purpose fertiliser also produced higher nitrogen, soluble phosphates and potash percentages than that stated. The dealers and manufacturers concerned were advised of the results found and their attention drawn to the need for providing accurate statutory statements within the limits of variation allowed in the Act.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN PAGE, *Chief Sanitary Inspector.*





2561 4/11/52